

George D.
Converse
Papers



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Title George D. Converse papers, 1864-1865.

Author Converse, George D.

Description 1 folder

Biography/History Resident of Fowlerville, Mich., who served in Company D, 9th Michigan Infantry, during the Civil War.

Summary Letters to his family describing his military service. Most of the letters were written at Chattanooga, Tenn., where the regiment was in camp.

Subjects United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Tennessee--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Subjects (Name) Converse, George D.
United States. Army. Michigan Infantry Regiment, 9th (1861-1865).
Company D.

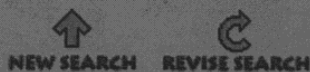
Contributors Ness, Nina L.

Notes Includes transcripts of letters.

Donor: 4567

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Chatenoga Tenn.

Nov. 8, 1864

Dear father and mother

45-1.1

I now sit down with my portfolio in my lap am well, for the circumstance that we are in. We have nothing but cloth tents to stay in and it rains, there is 5 of us in one tent and when we cant lay down we sit up and we ____ we cant keep the jokes agoing it is rather dull but when it rains then we joke the harder and make the best we can of it. to day is election and the boys are hurrahing and voting for old Abe. Daniel is well we stood the march first rate. I rode one day on the cars. got letter, was glad to hear from Am- Almira and Charley and all. father paid debts. I dont know how long we shal stay here, there is some talk that we shal go to Nashville and some say that we will go to noxville but dont think anyone knows where we will go yet. Daniel thinks best not to send box untill we find out where we stop for the winter. We can get butter and chees and cake and pies here but it costs pretty wel. We draw soft bread in the place of hard tack and so we get along pretty well at present. have not rot as often as i ought etc there has ben such a time about the railroad that we did not know whether the letters went through or not but we have got back now where we can get letters oftener and I will try to rite oftener. Albert Benjamin and Albert Drumare- Drum are here and well. young man in our company been sick in the hospital, just came to the regt, asked him if his name was ron gladen?, it was he remembered me when I told him that my name was Converse. his folks live near Cerman Coruna Shiawasa Co. Post office adres was at Coruna Shiawasa Co. Mich. have a testament and will read it. wants news from home.

9
Chattanooga
Nov. 9 1864

Mother and father

45-1.2
Daniel and I wrote a letter to Lewis Daniel
is a going up the river today to cut logs for to build shanties
with. I don't know how many is a going but I should think that there
was about a 100 of them. There was 500 and 6 votes cast yesterday
in our regiment and only 6 of them was for me Nelson and the rest
for Lincoln. the Michigan battery is here and they number 70
men and they all went for Lincoln the 22 regiment went 3 to 1
for Lincoln so you see that the most of the boys are for old
Abe. They are drilling the new recruits that has come to our
regiment. Father I like the raid that you made with Mr. Wetherell
don't raid of little Gim, want him when I come home.

Mother you wanted to know whether Daniel and I ever take any
part in the games in camp. We never have yet and you may rest
assured that we never will. I never have told you how I like sold-
iering, I like it first rate when it is fare weather, when it is
rainy and bad it is not so pleasant. We have enough to eat and drink
but our place for sleeping is not so good when it is wet but we
shall have robes blankets so we get along without getting much wet.
Tell Charles Chase that horriass is here been sick with the measles
Tell Mrs. Chase that Warde is well. We are camped on the bank of
the Tennessee river. pleasant place. We can see the steam boats
go up and down the river every day and can look down on the town and
see the cars come in and where it gets fare weather again I think
that we will enjoy our selves.

from your son G. D. _____

G.D. Converse Co. D. Mich. Inf. Chattanog Tenn.

Harriet have Alonzo bury potatoes for winter

Chatanooga, Tenn.

Nov. 18, 1864

Dear father and mother

45-1.3

I am detached from the regiment now my camp is about 50 rods from the regiment. I am up to Daniels camp. Daniel is on guard today. the detachment that I belong to is guarding the prisoners and the regiment is doing headquarter guard. Daniel well and enjoys himself. together often. had photographs taken last Mon. will send one. got 7 one to Harriet and Angeline and Lew and Jane and ransome and Almira. Regt. been paid off went to town and had supper. bought gloves.

Direst to Co. D. 9 Michy Chatanooga, Tenn.

Conneral
(Conneral)

17
Chattanooga Dec. 6, 1864

Dear friends

should have ritten to you before but the rebs have ben making another rade on the rail road and it was not safe to sand letters, got letter from Harriet and Almira.

45-1.A
I was on guard last night and am to sleepy to think of much to rite. I suppose that Daniel has rote all the news, there was a prisoner shot in the prison the other night for disobeying orders, the sentinel reproved him three times and then shot. they are some of them very stuborn but I have not had any trouble with them yet. I have to guard them at work every time that I am on garde but I have not had any trouble with them yet. there is about 200? prisoners here now and they are a rusty set of felows. the boys of our company are well. Cecil Parsons ben over here. A Albert Drum is well as is Albert Benjamin. tell Almira that Mr. Dunele? belongs to company k? and he is well. Ward well and _____ will send sweet pumpkin seeds. make pies. I will write a few lines to Herbert, wondering if he will teach, wants to know about Jim (horse) I hear somthing that would scare herbert and Jim both if they were here and could see it, it is a large steem boat coming down the river and it whistles loud and they look very nice acoming down the river with their flag on and all painted up nice.

G. _ G.

Converse
Converse

Chatanooga Jan. 2, 1865 ?

Dear friends

Daniel is on guard today. Resieved letters from home.

45-2
the reason that I have not ritten before this is because the road has ben cut and there did no _____ run through I suppose that you have hurd of the battles that has bin fought near Nashville and that the rebs got floged pretty wel and have got to cut back home again. There has some of the boys come back from their furlough and said that there was the news that the ___ was in the fight and was most all lost but that is false for they have not left Chatanooga since they got back from Atlanta. there was troops sent from here the 16 and 44 negro regiment and the 16 and 20 Ohio was sent and some artillery, the negroes done the picket duty untill they were sent off and our boys has to take their place but they are a coming back now and our regiment will them be relieved and then they onte have so much guarding to do and then we can have better times and when we get full rations we will get fat. Full rations is something that I have not seen since I have ben down here. When we was to Atlanta we only got three quarters rations and since we got back here we have not drawd only 1/2 rations but I think now we will soon get our rations again and then we will be all hunk. We hear that there is another draft a coming off the 15 of Jan. that will make some more runing for some of them down here in Mich. but I hope that it will catch some of them that run before don't you. Write and tell what they are doing about the draft and if they are any of them talking about inlisting I think that is the best way to get rid of it.

45-2
You told me in your letter that you had some of _____
for supper but we have lots of beef here but it is so poor that it
cant whine but it has to doe at preasent untill the pork and bacon
comes in from the north. give us plenty of letters and we will
live through it and come out all rite.

prety cold here, snow freezes very hard knights.
wish Happy New Year.

G.D. C. to Mother and Father Converse

Chattanooga Tennessee
Jan. 24, 1865

Mr. and Mrs. Chase

Dear Friends

wants news find out where James Laroe? is
if he is dead or a live. I want to write to him.

45-3
It was rite smart cold last nite Ward. Froze so hard
that the mal will hold up six mules and a wagon, rained and
snowed. boys all well, they have got read of picket duty now and
they dont have to go on guard but every 3 days and then drill the
rest of the time, they had rather do that than go on picket. I still
remain at the jail. there was 18? wiming brought in the other
knight and was sent to Nashville yesterday. I did not have to stand
guard over them as I did over the otherd that was brought to Captain
Wigins. There has not anything ben said about pay yet. If Father
cansend me 10 dollars I should like it and when we do get pay I
can send it back. there is such a runner that the regiment has
fesieved marching orders but we cant tell anything about what we
here. We hear so much I dont think of any thing more to write this
time

from George D. Converse to Mr. & Miss Chase.

29
Chattanooga Tenn. Feb. 5, /65

Dear Father and Mother

has a cold. James Larowe? has got back to
the Regiment he is not very tough yet but he is gaining. He
said that he left Coon Haymer and Pohny Olds in Detroit and they
were going to their regiments. looking for box.

45-4
there is such a report that we are going to Nashville in a
few days the Colonels Headquarters has gone they went day before
yesterday but when the regiment will go is more than we can tell.
Daniel well, getting fat as a hog. etc. Albert Benjamin is not
very well. expecting like nesses

I almost forgot to tell you about my little shanty. I and
another boy has built us one alone it is just large enough for
us and we have a bed and fire place in it and when one of us is on
guard the other gets dinner and we have gay times but I had rather
be with Daniel for it seems more like home than.

from George D. Converse to
Mother and Father.

resieved all them postage stamps

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